

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN DENNIS HIMMELBERGER**, on January 9, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Duane Ankney, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Hal Jacobson, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)  
Rep. Gary Branae (D)  
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)  
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)  
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)  
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)  
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)  
Rep. William J. Jones (R)  
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)  
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)  
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)  
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)  
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Scott Sales, Rep. Alan Olson

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Dee Barfknecht, Committee Secretary  
Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 23, 1/5/2007; HB 41, 1/5/2007;  
HB 52, 1/5/2007; HB 62, 1/5/2007;  
HB 96, 1/5/2007

**HEARING ON HB 23**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:03:31 Rep. Cynthia Hiner (D), HD 85, opened the hearing on HB 23, Clarify allocation of certain drivers license fees.

**Proponents:** None

**Opponents:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:05:29 Jeff Martin

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:05:55 Rep. Ingraham

00:06:21 Jeff Martin

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:06:42 Rep. Hiner

**HEARING ON HB 41**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:07:11 Rep. Shannon Augare (D), HD 16, opened the hearing on HB 41, Energy conservation and assistance funds for low-income persons.

**Proponents:**

00:11:19 Anna Whiting-Serell

00:12:31 Jim Nolan

00:14:17 Jim Morton

00:14:55 Bill Kennedy

00:16:27 Rachael Haberman

00:17:58 Mike Pichette

00:18:28 Leon Pattyn  
00:18:46 Wayne Schmidt

**Opponents:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:19:21 Rep. Ingraham  
00:19:58 Rep. Augare  
00:20:09 Jim Nolan  
00:21:30 Rep. Caferro  
00:21:51 Jim Nolan  
00:21:56 Rep. Caferro  
00:22:11 Jim Nolan  
00:22:56 Rep. Caferro  
00:23:12 Jim Nolan  
00:23:19 Rep. Barrett  
00:23:46 Jim Nolan  
00:25:00 Rep. Hendrick  
00:25:35 Jim Nolan  
00:26:28 Rep. Hendrick  
00:27:24 Jim Nolan  
00:27:44 Rep. Malcolm  
00:28:31 Jim Nolan  
00:28:55 Rep. Malcolm  
00:29:04 Jim Nolan  
00:29:10 Rep. Ankney  
00:29:46 Jim Nolan  
00:30:23 Rep. Ankney  
00:30:32 Jim Nolan  
00:31:22 Rep. Jacobson  
00:32:10 Jim Nolan  
00:32:24 Rep. Jacobson  
00:32:42 Rep. Phillips  
00:33:11 Jim Nolan  
00:33:20 Rep. Phillips  
00:33:26 Jim Nolan

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:33:32 Rep. Augare

**HEARING ON HB 52**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:34:19 Rep. Hal Jacobson (D), HD 82, opened the hearing on HB 52, Revise payment of court costs for contested election.

**Proponents:**

00:36:32 Mark Simonich

**Opponents:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:40:13 Rep. Dickenson  
00:41:17 Mark Simonich  
00:43:11 Rep. Dickenson  
00:43:24 Mark Simonich  
00:43:37 Rep. Wilmer  
00:44:00 Mark Simonich  
00:44:16 Elaine Graveley  
00:44:52 Rep. Wilmer  
00:45:04 Elaine Graveley  
00:45:13 Rep. Wilmer  
00:45:39 Rep. Jacobson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:46:37 Rep. Jacobson

**Additional Comments After Closing:**

00:47:47 Chairman Himmelberger  
00:48:15 Rep. Jacobson

**HEARING ON HB 62**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:48:33 Rep. Hal Jacobson (D), HD 82, opened the hearing on HB 62, Authorize contributions of annual leave to sick leave fund.

**Proponents:**

00:52:08 Connie Welsh  
00:53:44 Tom Schneider

**Opponents:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:55:20 Rep. Phillips  
00:56:03 Connie Welsh  
00:56:29 Rep. Phillips  
00:56:38 Connie Welsh  
00:56:47 Rep. Ingraham  
00:57:14 Connie Welsh  
00:57:42 Rep. Ingraham  
00:58:19 Connie Welsh  
00:59:33 Rep. Henry  
01:00:37 Connie Welsh  
01:01:09 Rep. Henry  
01:01:30 Connie Welsh  
01:01:51 Rep. Small-Eastman  
01:02:37 Connie Welsh  
01:03:02 Rep. Ankney  
01:03:21 Connie Welsh  
01:03:34 Rep. Ankney  
01:03:43 Connie Welsh  
01:03:49 Rep. Ankney  
01:04:20 Connie Welsh  
01:04:30 Rep. Dickenson  
01:05:08 Connie Welsh  
01:06:32 Rep. Dickenson  
01:06:52 Connie Welsh  
01:07:34 Rep. Dickenson  
01:07:59 Connie Welsh  
01:08:57 Rep. Small-Eastman  
01:09:29 Connie Welsh  
01:09:43 Rep. Hendrick  
01:10:34 Connie Welsh  
01:11:17 Rep. Hendrick  
01:11:37 Connie Welsh  
01:12:20 Rep. Malcolm  
01:13:21 Connie Welsh

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:15:21 Rep. Jacobson

**HEARING ON HB 96**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:16:46 Rep. Krayton Kerns (R), HD 58, opened the hearing on HB 96, Fund veteran cemetery maintenance.

**Proponents:**

01:18:43 Bill Kennedy

01:24:35 Sen. Dan McGee

**Opponents:**

01:26:25 Gary White

01:31:02 Larry Longfellow

01:31:42 Roger Hagen

**Informational Testimony:**

01:33:00 Joe Foster

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:33:21 Rep. Branae

01:33:40 Bill Kennedy

01:36:34 Rep. Dickenson

01:37:25 Joe Foster

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:39:33 Rep. Kerns

**ADJOURNMENT**

01:40:12 Chairman Himmelberger

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REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER, Chairman

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DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

DH/db

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT([sth05aad.pdf](#))**